

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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5 An apparatus for detecting biofilm in the water conduits of dental units, especially biofilm adhering to the inside surfaces of the conduits, can be used on a water line equipped with a plurality of conduits for supplying fluids to handpieces and fluid consuming units that use fluid from a main supply or accessory fluids from corresponding independent lines. A portion of one of the conduits is equipped with means for detecting the presence of the biofilm on the surfaces of the portion itself. The invention also relates to a method for detecting the biofilm. The method comprises the steps of contacting the biofilm attached to surfaces with a reagent substance or fluid; altering the biofilm by the reagent substance or fluid; and 15 detecting the alteration that has taken place in the biofilm using the detecting means. [Figure 2]